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Filed

09/6049,473

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Paper No. 25

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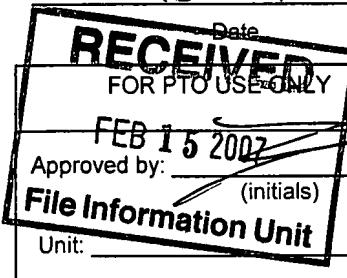
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US 2004009822A1

#25

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2004/0009822 A1

McCarty

(43) Pub. Date: Jan. 15, 2004

(54) BILLIARD CUE

(52) U.S. Cl. 473/44

(76) Inventor: Allan McCarty, Jacksonville, FL (US)

(57) ABSTRACT

Correspondence Address:

William M. Hanlon, Jr.

Suite 624

3001 West Big Beaver Road

Troy, MI 48084 (US)

(21) Appl. No.: 10/616,820

(22) Filed: Jul. 10, 2003

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 09/649,473, filed on Aug. 28, 2000, which is a continuation of application No. 08/825,249, filed on Mar. 27, 1997, now Pat. No. 6,162,128, which is a continuation of application No. 08/314,864, filed on Sep. 29, 1994, now Pat. No. 5,725,437.

Publication Classification

(51) Int. Cl.⁷ A63D 15/08

A billiard cue includes a shaft having a hollow bore extending for a predetermined distance from a first end of the shaft to reduce the tip end weight of the shaft. In one aspect, where the shaft is formed of a composite material consisting of fibers in a binder, such as carbon fibers in an epoxy resin, the bore forms an outer wall in the tip end of the shaft having a thickness between about 0.005 and about 0.05 inches. The shaft material has a modulus of elasticity of at least 4.3×10^6 psi. The bore extending from the first end of the shaft, the thin wall thickness of the tip end of the shaft and the material forming the shaft combine to decrease the mass of the tip end of the shaft while maintaining substantially all of the stiffness of a conventional solid wood shaft formed of a hard maple to minimize buckling of the tip end of the shaft and thereby substantially decrease deflection of the cue ball from its intended path of movement along a path parallel to the stroke axis of the shaft. The tip end bore may be left hollow or filled with a light weight, non-structural material. The hollow bore is equally applicable to shafts formed of wood.

